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PRISONERS OF WAR/MISSING IN ACTION

DASD (Public Affairs) Reports:

January to July Mail from PW/MIAs Falls 4,000 Letters Short

At a Pentagon news briefing August 17, Air Force Major General Daniel "Chappie" James, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs), made the following statement concerning mail received from prisoners of war:

"During the time period of January 1, 1972, to July 30, 1972, at least 5,600

**Related PW/MIA
Stories, Charts
See Pages 3, 8**

letters should have been received in accordance with the Geneva Conventions.

"Actual known letters received have totaled 1,548—a difference of more than 4,000 letters."

COMMANDERS DIGEST

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE • WASHINGTON, D.C.



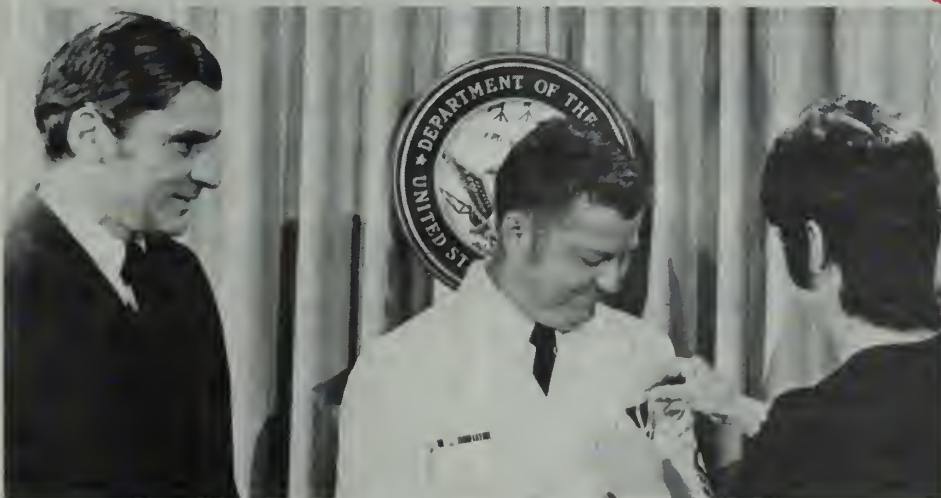
Vol. 12, No. 20

SEPTEMBER 21, 1972

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT: Southeast Asia

First Navy Enlisted Award for Combat

Radarman Awarded Distinguished Service Medal



NAVY FIRST. Navy Senior Chief Radarman Larry B. Nowell (center), the first Navy enlisted man to be awarded the Navy Distinguished Service Medal for combat action, is pinned with the medal by his wife, Patricia, during Pentagon ceremonies August 17, as Navy Secretary John W. Warner looks on. Chief Nowell was cited for his service as an air intercept controller on the Seventh Fleet guided missile cruiser USS Chicago, from where he directed Navy and Air Force aircraft to 12 Mig kills over North Vietnam earlier this year. (U.S. Navy Photo by Bill Masan)

The first Navy enlisted man to be awarded the Navy Distinguished Service Medal for combat action received the award from Secretary of the Navy John W. Warner in a Pentagon ceremony on August 17.

Senior Chief Radarman Larry B. Nowell of Dothan, Alabama, a veteran of 14 years naval service, received the medal for his ability as an air intercept controller in the Seventh Fleet guided missile cruiser USS Chicago. He directed Navy and Air Force aircraft to 12 Mig kills over North Vietnam earlier this year. The Chicago is now at its homeport, San Diego, after a six-month tour of duty in the Far East.

The Distinguished Service Medal (DSM) is the third highest U.S. military decoration.

It marked the second time any Navy enlisted man has received the DSM.

(See NAVY CHIEF, Page 8)

AWARDS

Five Military Units Get Transportation Awards, Citations

Five transportation units in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard will receive the National Defense Transportation Association Military Unit Award on September 25. The annual tribute is the highest and most coveted award given for military transportation.

The Army's 490th Transportation Company (Terminal Service) will be cited for its role in the successful removal of toxic munitions from Okinawa to Johnston Island during OPERATION RED HAT.

The Navy's USS Seattle will receive the award for support of the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean, steaming almost 80,000 miles to complete nearly 700 individual replenishments.

The 635th Air Force Transportation Squadron, U-Tapao Air Base, Thailand, will be honored for assuming extra maintenance responsibility for 250 munition maintenance vehicles with no additional manpower, contributing immeasurably to the combat role of the Strategic Air Command in Southeast Asia.

Last year, the Marine Corps' 2d Motor Transport Battalion, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, provided vehicular support in reaction to the May 1971 Moratorium March on Washington. While at the march, the Marines stepped out of their vehicles to become civil control agents. Later, in October, within an hour of notification, they assembled a thirty-truck convoy and moved to provide emergency evacuation of military and civilian personnel in a severe hurricane. The unit will receive the award for both accomplishments.

The Coast Guard port safety unit at the Naval Weapons Station, Concord, California, garnered the award for supervising the safe loading and unloading of military explosives and the training of Explosive Loading Supervisors who serve at Concord and other detachments around the world. Concord has an accident-free record which goes back to its commissioning in 1966.



MACKAY TROPHY WINNERS. A record-breaking flight in an SR-71 strategic reconnaissance jet has earned the MacKay Trophy for two U.S. Air Force Lieutenant Colonels: Dwain C. Vick (left), a reconnaissance systems officer, and Thomas B. Estes, a pilot. Both men are assigned to the 1st Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron at Beale AFB, California. They were presented the trophy—awarded annually by the Air Force and the National Aeronautical Association for the "most meritorious flight of the year"—in July for a 10½-hour dash in which they covered 15,000 miles at speeds over Mach 3 and altitudes above 80,000 feet, establishing "new and exceptional records for duration and total distance covered." A previous SR-71 flight of 2,070.1 mph over a straight course by Air Force Colonel R. L. Stevens on May 1, 1965, broke a mark of 1,665.89 mph established on July 7, 1962, by Soviet Union pilot Gueorgui Mossolov flying in a Mig-21. (Official U.S. Air Force Photo)

HELPFUL INFORMATION

The Department of Defense is encouraging its agencies and installations to include both commercial and Autovon telephone exchange dial numbers on all organizational directory charts distributed to higher and subordinate organizations. Including such information will greatly assist individuals in successfully completing telephone calls required in day-to-day activities.

COMMANDERS DIGEST

A publication of the Department of Defense intended to provide official information to commanders and key personnel on matters related to Defense policies and interests, and to create better understanding and teamwork within the Department of Defense.

Published weekly by the American Forces Press Service, 1117 N. 19th St., Arlington, Va. 22209, a unified activity of the Office of Information for the Armed Forces, OASD (M&RA). Reproduction of content is authorized.

U.S. Efforts to Secure Release Of Prisoners, Missing, Detailed

More than 1,700 U.S. military personnel and almost 50 civilians are officially listed by the U.S. Government as missing or captured in Southeast Asia. The actual number of prisoners in North Vietnam, South Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia is not known because of Hanoi's refusal to identify all prisoners. North Vietnam has identified 381 U.S. personnel captured at one time or another in North Vietnam, nine of whom were released and twenty of whom were listed by the enemy as having died. Virtually no information has been provided on men missing or captured in the other areas.

The 1949 Geneva Convention on Prisoners of War requires:

- Release of the names of all prisoners of war;
- Immediate repatriation of seriously sick and wounded;
- Inspection of PW facilities by a "Protecting Power"—an impartial government or organization such as the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC);
- Internment in a neutral country of seriously wounded PWs and those who have undergone a long period of captivity;
- Humane treatment of all prisoners of war; and
- The regular flow of mail to and from prisoners of war.

North Vietnam is a party with more than 130 other countries to the Geneva Convention, but refuses to abide by its terms. It claims that U.S. prisoners of war are all "war criminals" and thus not entitled to PW status. This claim has no basis in international law; uniformed members of our Armed Forces are clearly entitled to PW status.

Strenuous Efforts Made

The United States Government has made, and will continue to make, strenuous efforts on behalf of these Americans. We have sought to focus the attention of the world on the other side's callous indifference to the plight of these men and their families and have conducted vigorous diplomatic efforts (at the Paris Talks, the U.N., and elsewhere), to resolve the problem on a purely humane basis—for the prisoners of both sides. At the March 16, 1972, session of the Paris Talks, we proposed that the other side open the prison camps for international inspection in return for a firm agreement by both sides to refrain from efforts to liberate prisoners from the locations visited.

The Nation's concern has been expressed by President Nixon in two proclamations (March 1971, March 10, 1972) calling for a "National Week of Concern" for all Americans imprisoned or missing in action in Southeast Asia. The latter proclamation marked the tragic eighth anniversary of the imprisonment of the first American Serviceman in Vietnam, the longest internment ever endured by American fighting men.

Negotiating Proposals

In October 1970, we proposed the immediate and unconditional release of all prisoners of war held by both sides.

On May 31, 1971, we offered, in private talks, to withdraw all American forces in return for the release of all prisoners of war and an Indochina cease-fire, leaving the other issues of a settlement for subsequent resolution by the Indochinese parties.

On October 11, 1971, again in private talks, we offered to withdraw all



PW MAIL

The following figures indicate the number of letters reported to have been received by next-of-kin from prisoner of war writers, since the first U.S. prisoner of war was incarcerated in North Vietnam:

Year	Number of Letters (Per Year)	Writers (Cumulative)
1964	8	1
1965	35	19
1966	156	47
1967	257	80
1968	257	103
1969	942	295
1970	2,646	334
1971	1,500*	354†
1972 (to June 19)	1,548‡	356
Total	7,259	

* 1,001 of these letters were received in December and included 19 new writers (18 from South Vietnam and one from North Vietnam.)

† Includes 18 men captured in South Vietnam and allegedly held by Provisional Revolutionary Government. Prior to December 1971, only one letter had ever been received from U.S. Servicemen captured in South Vietnam; none from Laos or Cambodia.

‡ Receipt of 306 letters was reported by the Committee of Liaison during June. Two letters were brought from Hanoi by a news correspondent in June and one new writer was included.

Philippine Unit Citations Awarded

President Marcos Honors 30 U.S. Units

A dramatic and extensive civic action effort by U.S. Servicemen and dependents unfolded during July in response to one of the worst flood disasters ever to ravage the Republic of the Philippines.

To show appreciation for the American humanitarian response, the Philippine Republic Presidential Unit Citation was personally awarded on August 16 by President Ferdinand E. Marcos to more than 30 units of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps for "their outstanding service during the Philippine

disaster relief operations in the flood-stricken provinces of central Luzon."

The record rainfall began pounding the Philippine Islands with typhoon-force gales July 5, and some five feet of water poured from the skies in a 21-day period.

The first relief activity for flood victims came in the form of volunteer and charitable help.

Clark Air Base, located about 30 miles north of Manila, was declared by the U.S. Embassy in Manila to be the relief center. The center was set up to work in cooperation with the Philippine

Red Cross and other local social organizations.

Clark-based organizations, military units and private citizens responded dramatically. Air Force Chaplain (Colonel) Kenneth Israel of Chapel 2 at Clark was put in charge of collecting, coordinating and distributing goods, while the base Disaster Preparedness Unit was made responsible for transportation.

The Chapel was the scene of bustling activity, where canned goods, clothing and rice were packaged and boxed by volunteers, picked up in trucks and distributed to those in need. Cooperating organizations included the Protestant and Catholic Women of the Chapel, Knights of Columbus, Columbia Squires, Boy and Girl Scouts of America, Explorer Scouts, Catholic Youth Organization, God Squad and Women's Welfare Association.

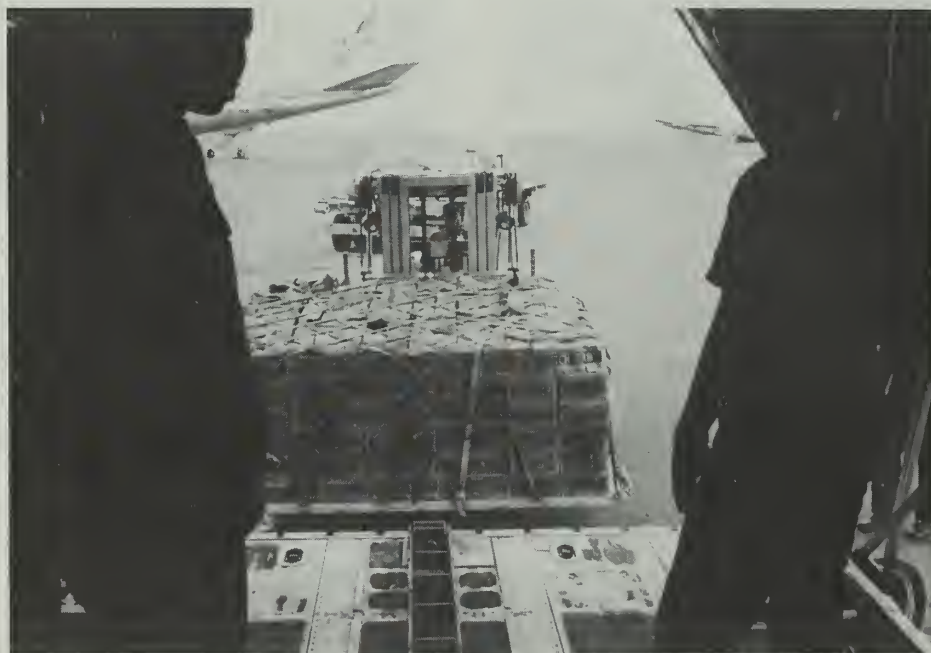
During the eight days of operations at the Chapel, about 20 tons of rice were purchased and re-bagged by volunteers. In addition, hundreds of cases of canned fish, milk and boxes of used clothing were collected and dispatched.

The Women's Welfare Association at Clark collected \$3,000 worth of rice, fish and milk for flood refugees.

Enlisting the aid of the base civic action staff at Clark, the women's group obtained seven large tents from the base Salvage Disposal facility to provide temporary lodgings for the homeless. Many members took some of the destitute refugees into their own homes.

In the meantime, food and other life-saving supplies began to arrive at Clark. The Navy initially released 15,000 pounds of high-protein bread and medical supplies.

By July 22, Clark's efforts were augmented by the first of six Army Disaster



LOAD TRANSFER. Canned milk for victims of flood-ravaged central Luzon is off-loaded from a 374th Tactical Airlift Wing C-130 Hercules aircraft at Clark Air Base. The milk, along with other foodstuffs and needed supplies, was transferred to smaller aircraft and then airlifted to areas cut off from rail and highway transportation by the heavy seasonal inundations.

(Official U.S. Air Force Photo by A1C Robert La Rue)



AWARDS CEREMONY. U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines Henry A. Byrroade (second from left) and four of 30 other Americans representing U.S. Armed Forces units who received the Philippine Republic Presidential Unit Citation for outstanding flood disaster relief service there in July and August, listen as an aide to Philippines President Ferdinand E. Marcos reads the citation that accompanied the award. Left to right from Ambassador Byrroade are: U.S. Navy Rear Admiral John H. Dick, the Commander-in-Chief Pacific's representative in the Philippines and

overall coordinator for the flood relief operation; U.S. Air Force Lieutenant General Marvin L. McNickle, Commander, Thirteenth Air Force; U.S. Army Colonel William J. Cummings, Chief, Ground Forces Division, Joint U.S. Military Advisory Group; and Navy Captain W. H. Ellis, Commander, Amphibious Squadron Three. The presentation, held in Manila's Malacañang Palace, marked only the second time since World War II that the citation had been awarded to forces of an allied nation. (Official U.S. Navy Photograph by JOC Ely U. Orias)

Assistance Relief Teams (called DARTs) from Okinawa. The teams are expert in all areas of disaster relief.

The following day, the six teams—composed of medical, civic action, communications and construction personnel—were deployed into the Luzon Island provinces. Together with U.S. Air Force helicopters at Clark, Marine helicopters from the helicopter carrier USS Tripoli of the Seventh Fleet delivered the men and supplies to the stricken area.

A large hangar on the Clark flightline was used to store the tons of relief supplies which were transported to the base by C-130 planes based at Clark and U.S. Air Force units based at Ching Chuan Kang Air Base on Taiwan.

As the American effort intensified, the Chapel activity was closed down on July 22, and the emphasis was placed in a joint-military effort.

The DARTs were rushed to the Luzon plain area and the provinces of Tarlac and Pampanga, where they began inoculating hundreds of people against disease. People stranded by the high water were pulled to safety and taken to relocation centers. Tons of foods and supplies continued to be flown into Clark by the C-130s and Air Force and Marine Corps helicopters made distribution to outlying areas, where stranded people by the thousands awaited their arrival.

By the time the rains had stopped and the military effort had been concluded August 13, the American effort to an ally in need had been extensive.

When President Marcos presented the awards on August 16, he included one for American Ambassador to the Philippines Henry A. Byrroade and commended personnel of the U.S. Embassy in Manila and the Philippines Office of the U.S.



FLOOD RELIEF. A U.S. Army Disaster Assistance Relief Team (DART) soldier passes boxes of food to victims in the flood-stricken province of Pangasinan in the Philippines.

(Official U.S. Air Force Photo)

Agency for International Development for their assistance.

Included among the officials who represented their Service units at the ceremonies were Navy Rear Admiral John H. Dick, Commander-in-Chief Pacific Command's Representative in the Philippines and coordinator for U.S. Armed Forces disaster relief operations; Air Force Lieutenant General Marvin L. McNickle, Commander, Thirteenth Air Force; Army Lieutenant Colonel Jerry King, Commanding Officer, U.S. Army Disaster Assistance Relief Teams; Marine Colonel C. T. Williamson, Commanding Officer, 33rd Marine Amphibious Unit; Navy Captain W. H. Ellis, Commander, Amphibious Squadron Three; and Air Force Captain M. J. McCarthy, 774th Tactical Airlift Squadron.

Seventh Fleet amphibious ships which took part in the operations included the helicopter carriers USS Tripoli and USS New Orleans and the landing ship tank USS Cayuga.

The Ninth Marine Amphibious Brigade sent its 33rd Marine Amphibious Unit, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 165 and Battalion Landing Team 2/4 for relief assistance.

In addition, 13 other Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force unit representatives were present at the award ceremony.

Military Schooling Valuable

USAF School Seeks College Credits for Training

The new Community College of the Air Force at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, is unique. It has no campus, no instructors and no students—yet it is the very latest concept in providing educational opportunities to Airmen.

Started last April as an institution, the college will produce its first tangible benefits this fall. Initially, its task will be to provide airmen with transcripts of in-service education and training in a form acceptable to civilian schools and employers.

Under the new concept, transcripts for all educational military experience will be assessed, together with former civilian schooling. The two totals will then aggregate the number of years of accreditation for advanced school placement or employment.

The Air Force's Air Training Command at Randolph AFB, responsible for overseeing technical training, is reviewing hundreds of its technical courses to see how much credit can be given for each course. Once that determination is made, the Community College of the Air Force can then issue a transcript which credits the number of academic hours each student can receive.

Affiliation with an association of colleges and schools is the first step toward obtaining accreditation. At present, Air Force technical schools at Keesler AFB, Mississippi, and Sheppard and Lackland AFBs, Texas, have been approved for affiliation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Working with the North Central Association toward accreditation are USAF technical schools at Lowry AFB, Colorado, and Chanute AFB, Illinois.

Because the college has been in existence such a short time, transcript service is available only to enlisted men who have completed resident technical school courses since 1968. But, an airman who has completed college-level courses at

anytime, can request that those schools report his credit to the Community College of the Air Force.

The consolidated report will keep a clear educational record for each airman of his progress toward a degree—even though he may take courses at several Air Force technical schools and attend high school or college night classes.

The Community College of the Air Force concept will open new doors to airmen who hope to develop certified or licensed skills recognized and used both in the Air Force and the civilian com-

munity. It will also provide highly qualified and skilled men and women to the civilian community at the end of their Air Force service and add to the national resource of trained personnel for the country.

In the concept of an All-Volunteer Force, vocational training is the Air Force's biggest recruiting incentive. Researchers at the Human Resources Laboratory of the Air Force Systems Command in suburban Washington, D.C., have discovered that many young people enlist because they want training and a chance to get or improve a skill.

The Air Force also provides courses that are useful for civilian occupations—courses that are equal to, or in many cases, superior to those taught in the top civilian vocational and technical schools.

However, until now, a veteran's training has been very difficult to certify in a way that was meaningful to anyone outside of the Air Force.

Serving as the institution's first president is its "ground-level planner," Colonel John L. Phipps. He holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree in education.

The basis for the Community College was founded in February, 1971, at a special conference between the late Lieutenant General George B. Simler, then Commander, Air Training Command (See Box); Lieutenant General Albert P. Clark, Superintendent, Air Force Academy; and Lieutenant General Alvan C. Gillem II, Commander, Air University.

As a result of that meeting, a tri-command working group was formed to explore ways of maximizing the benefits of Air Force training and education programs for the individual, the Air Force and the Nation.

In April 1971, the tri-command working group and air staff officers met at Sheppard AFB during a Tri-Command "Accent on Youth" confer-

Leader in Establishment of USAF Community College Killed In Aircraft Crash



Air Force Lieutenant General George B. Simler, Commander, Air Training Command at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, and one of the driving forces in the establishment of the Community College of the Air Force there, was killed in the crash of a T-38 aircraft Saturday, September 9.

The General and his aide, Air Force Captain Gil L. Gillespie, were killed when the two-place jet crashed on takeoff from Randolph AFB. They were on a flight to Scott AFB, Illinois, where General Simler was to take command of the Military Airlift Command in September.

ence. One subject discussed by the officials concerned the establishment of a Community College of the Air Force in which airmen and officers could receive credit on a single transcript for all on-duty technical training and after-hour study throughout their careers.

A separate, accredited, special-purpose college, they concluded, would solve the problem and provide an attractive selling point for recruiters and retention counselors.

Formal development soon began and the school was established under the Training Research and Development Directorate, Headquarters, Air Training Command, at Randolph AFB.

Today, the Community College of the Air Force is responsible for monitoring:

- Accreditation of Air Force education and training activities by external accrediting agencies;
- Recognition of Air Force education and training activities by professional, industrial and government organizations having licensing, certification and standard-setting authority;
- Development of internal standards, policies and procedures for granting Air Force certificates and diplomas and recommending how these achievements may



This building is the home of the new U.S. Air Force Community College

be related to Air Force careers;

- Operation of an automated central transcript service to include authentication by a Community College of the Air Force seal;

- Issuance of a catalog, setting forth academic practices and programs available in Air Force schools and cooperating institutions;

- Development of procedures for making available unclassified training programs for use in civilian schools;

- Development of programs to provide instruction which will ease the transition of Air Force personnel from military to civilian status; and

- Development of proposals for enabling legislation as required.

Col. Phipps and his staff are quick to point out that much work remains before the Community College issues its first transcripts this fall. For example, the content of all Air Force courses must be translated into non-military terms and semester hours.

He also stressed that the education office at each installation will be the primary source of information about the Community College's programs as they are developed. *Writing directly to Randolph will only slow down the progress in preparing for the fall opening, he indicated.*

When transcript services do go into effect, transcripts must be ordered through each individual's base education office.

Parallel to the effort to accredit technical schools, the Air Force Physician's Assistant Training Program at Sheppard

AFB is already accredited by the American Medical Association. Its graduates can now be licensed in several states throughout the country once they retire or otherwise terminate their service with the Air Force. (See **COMMANDERS DIGEST**, Vol. 12, No. 10, July 13, 1972.)

The President's National Advisory Council on Vocational Education has expressed keen interest in the Community College of the Air Force and, along with representatives of the Air Force Association's Aerospace Education Foundation, visited the Texas installation for a first-hand look earlier this year.

The school's benefits to society in general will be significant, officials said.

Each year, more than 100,000 veterans leave the Air Force, trained for work in civilian occupations. With the coming of the Community College of the Air Force, they will represent an easily identifiable skilled manpower source that can be drawn upon much more readily than is now possible.

Gen. Simler, before his tragic death, was very optimistic about the newly-formed Community College.

Earlier this year, he told **AIR FORCE MAGAZINE**, "I think we have an obligation to Americans who come into the Air Force to provide them with this kind of service—regardless of whether they stay in the Air Force or return to civilian life."

In either case, the individual and American society as a whole will gain through the efforts of the new Community College of the Air Force.



FIRST PRESIDENT. Colonel John L. Phipps, Ph.D., is credited as being the "ground-level planner" for the new Community College of the Air Force. (Official U.S. Air Force Photos)

U.S. EFFORTS TO SECURE RELEASE OF PW/MIAS DETAILED

(Continued from Page 3)

U.S./Allied Forces from South Vietnam within a fixed period following agreement in principle on an overall settlement, the withdrawal to proceed in parallel with an exchange of all prisoners of war, civilian and military, captured throughout Indochina. Both sides would present a complete list of prisoners, and the release would begin on the same day as the troop withdrawals.

On January 25, 1972, we publicly proposed the withdrawal of all U.S. Forces and the simultaneous release of all prisoners within six months of an agreement in principle on an overall settlement.

On May 8, 1972, we publicly proposed cessation of all acts of force and complete withdrawal of all American Forces from Vietnam within four months once prisoners of war are released and once an internationally supervised ceasefire throughout Indochina is begun.

South Vietnam and the U.S. have proposed that sick and wounded and long-held PWs be interned in a neutral country, in accordance with the Geneva Convention. On April 29, 1971, South Vietnam specifically proposed that 1,200 North Vietnamese PWs held four years or longer be interned in a neutral nation. President Nixon endorsed the offer and urged North Vietnam to accept. Six countries have publicly offered to cooperate in such arrangements, but North Vietnam and the other Communist authorities in Indochina rejected these initiatives.

Hanoi's Response

The Communists rejected all of these proposals. They continue to insist that we unconditionally set a specific date for total U.S. withdrawal and remove the Government of South Vietnam as conditions for any discussions on prisoner release.

Prisoners/MIA

We are continuing to use every means to press for the earliest possible release of all Americans held in captivity and the fullest possible accounting for the missing. We have made clear that we will not withdraw all of our forces from South Vietnam until we secure the release of our imprisoned men.

AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR
AND MISSING IN ACTION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA
(AS OF AUGUST 26, 1972)**BY COUNTRY**

	MISSING	CAPTURED	TOTAL
North Vietnam	453	425	878
South Vietnam	495	106	601
Laos	288	6	294
Totals	1236	537	1773

BY SERVICE

	MISSING	CAPTURED	TOTAL
Army	357	85	442
Navy	127	157	284
Marine Corps	104	25	129
Air Force	648	270	918
Totals	1236	537	1773

STATISTICAL RECAPULATION BY YEAR LOST

	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Missing	4	54	204	226	294	176	86	79	113
Captured	3	74	97	179	95	13	12	11	53
Totals	7	128	301	405	389	189	98	90	166

NAVY CHIEF WINS DSM

(Continued from Page 1)

The first to receive the medal was Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Delbert Black upon his retirement from active duty in 1971.

"It is fitting that Chief Nowell should receive this very special recognition, since he is an exceptional man who has made unparalleled contributions to the war effort in Southeast Asia," commented Admiral Bernard A. Clarey, U.S. Pacific Fleet Commander, who met Nowell in the Tonkin Gulf last May.

"If air controllers received official credit for the enemy aircraft they helped destroy," Adm. Clarey said, "Chief Nowell would be one of the leading air aces."

One pilot who had worked with Nowell described his talents as, "... an instinct for aerial tactics and flying. He isn't just good, he's uncanny."

The citation Secretary Warner presented with the medal to Nowell read in part: "... Nowell exhibited outstanding leadership and extraordinary profes-

sional skill in all facets of anti-air warfare operations."

"My job," says Nowell, "is to draw the pilot a continuous mental picture of where he is in relation to the overall tactical situation."

If a pilot comes up short of fuel, Nowell can find him a tanker. If a pilot bails out, Nowell can aid in search and rescue operations. And, if an unidentified aircraft shows up on Nowell's radar scope as an unfriendly, he can direct American fighter missions to intercept.

Few pilots who have worked with Nowell would disagree. Of the 12 Migs shot down under Nowell's direction, three were by Navy pilots and nine by Air Force pilots—all flying F-4 Phantom fighters. This is almost half of the total Mig kills for American pilots in the first six months of 1972.

Nowell has been a radarman for all but six months of his naval career, and an air intercept controller since 1965.